

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05697 071312Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 MCT-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 OPR-02 /066 W
-----127783 071754Z /40

R 071248Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4722
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5697

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SY
SUBJECT: SECURITY SITUATION IN SYRIA

REF: DAMASCUS 2038

1. DURING VISIT TO ALEPPO LAST WEEK, I CALLED ON CHIEF
OF POLICE, BRIG, GENERAL ABDULLAH NABULSI, AN ACQUAINTANCE
OF SEVERAL YEARS STANDING.

DISCUSSING SECURITY SCENE IN ALEPPO,
WHICH NABULSI DESCRIBED AS UNEVENTFUL FOR PAST SEVERAL
MONTHS (AN EVALUATION ENDORSED BY PRIVATE ALLEPANS), HE
REVEALED THAT SARG HAD ARRESTED A SMALL GROUP RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE MURDERS OF UNIVERSITY RECTOR AL-FADIL, AND AIR DEFENSE
CHIEF RAZZUQ AS WELL AS FOR THE JULY CAR BOMBINGS IN
DAMASCUS.

2. NABULSI SAID THAT THESE MEN WERE ARRESTED IN ALEPPO
DURING AUGUST ON THE BASIS OF A LEAD FROM A GOVERNMENT
INFORMANT. HE DESCRIBED THEM MERELY AS "SYRIANS IN THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 05697 071312Z

PAY OF IRAQ" AND SAID THEY WOULD SHORTLY BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL
BEFORE THE STATE SECURITY COURT.

4. COMMENT:

THE ARREST OF THIS GROUP MAY EXPLAIN WHY WE HAVE HAD
NO MAJOR SECURITY INCIDENTS IN COUNTRY SINCE THE JULY 10

BOMBING IN FRONT OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IN DAMASCUS.
WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT, TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, LATTAKIA AND
HOMS HAVE BEEN WITHOUT INCIDENTS FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. THE
PERPETRATORS OF THE ACTS IN DAMASCUS OBVIOUSLY FOCUSSED ON THE
CAPITAL IN ORDER TO GAIN THE MAXIMUM
PUBLICITY IN THEIR EFFORT TO STIMULATE POPULAR UNEASINESS.
WE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED WIDE PUBLICITY OF FACT OF ARRESTS,
BUT SYRIAN AUTHORITIES MAY NOT KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THEIR PRIOR
CLAIM TO HAVE ARRESTED AL-FADIL MURDERERS LAST MARCH. THOSE
ARRESTED AT THAT TIME WERE NEVER TRIED (SEE REFTEL).
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, PARAMILITARY FORCES, MURDER, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC05697
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770323-1110
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770992/aaaaczlg.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9e40034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DAMASCUS 2038
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1369141
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY SITUATION IN SYRIA
TAGS: PINS, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9e40034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009